

[2345/146]

**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am an original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled **OPTICAL COMMUNICATIONS LINK**, the specification of which was filed as International Application No. PCT/EP99/05664 on August 5, 1999 and filed as a U.S. application having Serial No. 09/786,826 on March 9, 2001, for Letters Patent in the U.S.P.T.O.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

**PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION(S)**

Number	Country Filed	Day/Month/Year	Priority Claimed Under 35 USC 119
198 41 068.9	Fed. Rep. of Germany	9 September, 1998	Yes

And I hereby appoint Richard L. Mayer (Reg. No. 22,490), Gerard A. Messina (Reg. No. 35,952) and Linda M. Shudy (Reg. No. 47,084) my attorneys with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. 3

Please address all communications regarding this application to:

KENYON & KENYON  
One Broadway  
New York, New York 10004  
CUSTOMER NO. 26646

Please direct all telephone calls to Richard L. Mayer at (212) 425-7200.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful and false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

RECEIVED 05/08/2001



Inventor: Gisela DULTZ

2.6  
Inventor's Signature: G. Dultz

Date: 10.5.01

Residence: Marienberger Str. 37  
65936 Frankfurt am Main  
Federal Republic of Germany

DEX

Citizenship: Federal Republic of Germany

Post Office Address: Same as above.

Inventor: Erna ERINS

Inventor's Signature: *Erna S.*

3-00  
Date: 23 May, 2001

Residence: Garibaldi 2859 - Ap. 403  
11600 Montevideo  
Uruguay

UYX

Citizenship: Uruguayan

Post Office Address: Same as above.

Inventor: Heidrun SCHMITZER

Inventor's Signature: J. Schmitzer

Date: 10. May 2001

**Residence:** König-Philipp-Weg 25  
D-93051 Regensburg  
Federal Republic of Germany

DEY

**Citizenship:** Federal Republic of Germany

**Post Office Address:** Same as above.

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